THE NEW CANADIAN

THE VOICE OF THE SECOND GENERATION

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Today's HEADLINES

FAR EASTERN FRONT.

ATAVIA. — Netherlands Indies forces on land and air aided by s fought back furiously at the nese invasion strongholds in neo and Celebes which were won erday, it was announced today. erican and Australian forces e said to be the Allies assisting Dutch in their defence of the es and their combined air forces claimed today, to have bombed two Japanese cruisers, a troyer and two transports.

SINGAPORE. — Loss of Kuala Lumpur was indicated today in a communique issued by the British command announcing that its troops had retreated to new positions before Seremban, 35 miles airline southeast of the capital of the Federated Malay States. The loss of this city has left more than two-thirds of the peninsula in the hands of the invaders and the battlelines are now situated 150 miles from Singapore.

THE RUSSIAN FRONT

MOSCOW. — The new German winter defence line between Vyazma and Bryansk which is about 150 miles west of Moscow has been broken by the Russian advance and Soviet troops are within 80 miles of Smolensk, Hitler's headquarters, according to Russian reports today. The midnight communique announced the reoccupation of Lyudinovo about 110 miles west of Moscow and the recapture of the important railway junction of Tikhonova Pustyn, a few miles north of Kaluga, which is half way between Moscow and Bryansk.

capital.

LONDON. — Eire was being pressed for the use of South Ireland points for war bases according to British reports today. The British and the Americans aided by a concerted British press campaign were making new overtures for air fields and ports in the neutral state.

LONDON. — Rumours were rife that a purge of generals in the German Army had taken place and among others General Ernst Udet, quartermaster-general of the air force had been purged rather than in an accident as declared officially. Udet was known internationally as a World War 1 ace and a and stunt flier.

IN CANADA

OTTAWA. — The Wartime Prices and Trades Board were reported to be moving to reduce pressure on retailers by the price ceiling imposed on December 1. They were making it clear to some lines of business that retailers must be supplied with goods at a cost price that recognition to the retail selling level under the price ceiling.

LOCAL FRONT

Major-General R. O. Alexander, S.O., G.O.C. Pacific command said today that the formation of "home defense units" was not the answer to the Pacific defence problem. He said, "Any able-bodied man who feels our defence system needs strengthening can do his part by joining one of the reserve battalions."

An Editorial

Let's Keep The Record Straight

ON FRIDAY noon, January 9, a pleasant young man dropped into our office and shook hands with the editor of this paper. The editor of the Sun, he said, had sent him down to pick up a copy of the current issue. This was given to him, we chatted agreeably for a few moments on the current situation, and then he departed.

That evening we read the first of the Sun's stories on "The New Canadian." The next day, we read a long editorial which first distorted our views and then condemned them.

We regret indeed that we were not informed as to what attack the Sun was planning. If we had known of their interest, we would have supplied them with a file of The New Canadian, which has faithfully recorded the activities and the spirit of the Japanese community for the past three years.

The editor of the Sun, then, would have been able to read of a record of which any group of Canadian citizens might well be proud. He would have been able to read of the struggle that our people are waging to maintain Canadian standards, of the wholehearted contributions to the war effort. He would have read of an exemplary spirit of co-operation with the government and civic officials and of the earnest desire of our young men to serve their country in her need.

And he would have seen too that this newspaper has been foremost in encouraging the spirit of Canadian citizenship within this community. It has worked unceasingly for national unity and goodwill among all Canadians. It has fought above all things to uphold the very practical ideals of "progress and democracy, tolerance and freedom of human thought," not merely to flaunt them in its masthead.

Finally, the editor of the Sun would have recognized that this newspaper has been an invaluable and a necessary means to keep the Japanese community informed upon government regulations taken to ensure the safety of this coast. It has enjoyed the confidence of the authorities, who have been reading it closely ever since war was first declared in September, 1939. We believe it has been as useful to them, as it has been to the community and to the nation as a whole.

One further word may be added. The Sun condemns us for our failure to apologise for Japan's treacherous attack on Hawaii. Let it be said that we do not apologise for the Japanese war lords, because we are Canadians. And being a Canadian, the editor of this paper is prepared to avenge that attack not with words of apology, but with weapons far stronger. His application for enlistment in the armed forces of his country has been in the hands of military authorities for the past ten months. That offer of service still stands.

THOMAS SHOYAMA.

Resolutions Submitted

Federal Cabinet to Make Final Decision on Policy

OTTAWA.—The final decision as to what further steps will be taken to dispose of the "Japanese problem" on the Pacific Coast will be made by the Federal Cabinet at a meeting late this afternoon or Tuesday morning it was reported this morning.

The conference between the government, naval and military heads, and the standing committee which began last Thursday has now been concluded, and its findings as well as recommendations are being submitted to the cabinet.

It was said that two of the matters dealt with would be the proposal to set up an agency to transfer Japanese-owned fishing boats to other fishermen, and the proposal to remove able-bodied males from the coastal areas.

Mayor F. J. Hume, chairman of the committee, said that the government had been very fair with the committee, and that he was well pleased at the reaction to British Columbia's problem. He said he believed some action would be taken following the meeting this afternoon.

He declined to state the nature of the recommendations drafted by the conference or to comment on previous reports of the setting up of works projects for able-bodied men.

Prairies Disinterested

The BUP said this morning that the proposals that British Columbia's Japanese be taken from coastal areas and sent "East of the Rockies" evoked little interest in the prairie provinces.

Few government or other leaders in the three provinces would make any official comment on the suggestion, declaring that "It's a federal matter, and has nothing to do with us yet."

Mayor MacEachern of Saskatoon however said: If B. C. is afraid, the Japanese residents should be put into concentration camps like Axis nationals. It would be foolish to move them into prairie cities. We have no room."

West Van. Worried

WEST VANCOUVER.—The Municipal Council forwarded to Ottawa a resolution to the effect that "there are many Japanese residing in West Vancouver. Consequently it is the desire of the council that they be closely checked, and if, after observation, the authorities consider any of them should be interned, appropriate action would be appreciated."

Approximately 100 people live in the Japanese community at Great Northern Cannery.

"Ban Trucks" says M.P.

ABBOTSFORD.—In a request to Ottawa, Fraser Valley M.P. Geo. Cruickshank urged that no Japanese be allowed to use trucks in valley between fruit seasons.

The M.P., however, does not believe it possible to remove Japanese from fruit ranches at least until after the 1942 season is over, without seriously curtailing the coming crop, much of which will be sent to Britain in the form of jam or concentrate.

Conservatives' Motion

VANCOUVER.—B. C. Conservative Association's annual convention Saturday passed a resolution urging the removal of all Japanese from the Pacific Coast.

Steveston Resolution Backs Government And Offers Service

Text of the message sent to the government by the Steveston Japanese Canadian Citizens' Association last week-end follows:

"We wish to record our confidence in the Canadian Government, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, and the standing committee on Oriental affairs in British Columbia, in their handling of matters relating to Japanese in their dealing with the fishing community.

"We earnestly desire to contribute our utmost to Canada's war effort and hereby offer our services in any capacity that the government may decide."

The resolution was passed without a dissenting voice by a mass meeting of Canadian-born Japanese resident in Steveston all of whom have been most severely hit by the suspension of their fishing licences. It was wired to Mayor F. J. Hume, chairman of the standing committee.

Fishboats for Fireboats

Naval authorities will be approached by a joint committee of the City Council and Burrard Inlet waterfront owners for the release of two 60-foot wooden-hulled Japanese fishing vessels to be leased at a nominal rent and used as fireboats in Vancouver Harbour.

Give Local Japanese A Fair Chance Is American Attitude

Care and consideration but a firm hand have characterized the treatment of Japanese in the United States by the government.

Attorney - General Francis Biddle struck the key-note when he stated, in part, "If we care about democracy, we must care about it as a reality for others as well as for ourselves; yes, for aliens, for Germans, for Italians, for Japanese, for those who are with us as well as those who are against us—the rights of all are alike before the law."

As a rule, state and local authorities have been careful to follow in the Attorney-General's footsteps, especially when the government issued the request, asking local authorities not to interfere with the government's plans nor to initiate local measures in their handling of enemy aliens.

Issei, Nisei Different

In the United States, of course, there is a vast difference in the treatment of first and second generations. American-born Japanese are full-fledged citizens, entitled to all the privileges and rights, and and duties of citizens. On the sharing in the responsibilities other hand, their parents, coming under the category of "enemy aliens" have had various restrictions imposed upon them.

Latest figures show that a little over 1500 Japanese have been interned out of a total Japanese population of some 138,000 for the whole country, some 1 per cent. But there has been no demand for extreme measures such as the internment of all Japanese males or their evacuation from the Pacific area.

In Southern California teeming centre of defense activities, quite drastic steps have been taken to protect the country's interests from possible sabotage. Japanese-owned banks and business have been padlocked and Japanese fishing fleets taken over.

In the Northwest the friendly, sympathetic story of American-born Fred Yasunaga, who won second prize in a national essay contest, as told to the public by a Seattle paper, gives a fair idea of the general attitude toward the Japanese.

Significant is the three-column heading describing the youth, "He looks like a Japanese boy, but he's an American underneath."

In Seattle market centre where Japanese are carrying on a good deal of the brisk trade, the recent practice of Chinese and Fillipinos using

See "AMERICAN" P. 2

No Change in Name

Understand Situation Say Students

Members of the University Japanese Students' Club Saturday night at the Powell church voted down a proposal to change the name of the organization. They felt that such a change would invite suspicion, and that even if the name were altered, Nisei students would still be referred to as Japanese.

The organization moreover, will send a communication to the appropriate authorities expressing the students' clear understanding of the situation in regard to their discharge from military training at the University, and their willingness to co-operate to the best of their ability in any way to aid in the prosecution of the war.

This action was concurred in when it became evident that no change enabling the students to resume military training was possible.

The executive was empowered to meet any emergency which may arise. It was thought that much valuable time is lost in calling together a meeting.

Cancellation of the intercollegiate debate and the high school oratorical contest were ratified by the meeting.

The club, however, will sponsor an informal dance to raise funds for donation to a student fund in support of the war.

Nisei Soldier Here

Posted in Vancouver temporarily is Private Hiromi Tanaka, Prince Rupert second generation soldier in the Active Army who has just completed two months of basic training at camp in Vernon, B. C.

Every consideration is shown to Nisei soldiers, according to Pte. Tanaka, and there was a genuine spirit of comradeship evident in training camp in spite of racial differences.

"AMERICAN" . . . Cont'd from p. 1

identification marks has been discouraged and discontinued.

The Japanese have not escaped from the clutches of petty racketeers. News which Vancouver Japanese may take heed of was made the other day when an enterprising salesman was kicked out of the Seattle public market who was found using high-pressure methods in selling to Japanese buttons which bore the words, "I am a good American."

Many reasons have been given for this liberal public attitude.

The main ones are economic in nature. There is no vast fleet of Japanese owned and operated fishing boats in Puget Sound as in B. C.'s fishing coast, giving rise to no lurid stories of Japanese naval officers disguised as innocent-looking fishermen spying out the coast.

Economic Reasons

A more vital reason may be traced to the fact that 95 per cent of the fresh vegetables consumed by Seattle people is supplied by Japanese farms south of the city. As was discovered in the first few days of the war when the government order freezing Japanese nationals' funds choked this supply, it would be a difficult task to replace Japanese farmers.

Japanese Canadians contend also that the simple fact that the American Niseis are citizens account for a good deal in the attitude of the public toward them and their attitude toward the public.

American Niseis are more demonstrative than their Canadian cousins, and for years have taken every opportunity to convince Americans of their loyalty. The Niseis are good propagandists.

By and large, the government's policy to interfere as little as possible in civilian life and their watchword, "treat them (the Japanese) well, but keep them under constant scrutiny," are bearing results.

Valentine Dance To Chase Away Blues

ATTENTION, EVERYONE! DON'T BE STUCK IN THE BLUES!

WHY? You ask. It's none other than the fact that there WILL BE a DANCE after all.

Yes, with an ORCHESTRA and all the trimmings too! And the date? . . . Thursday, February 12, just before St. Valentine's Day!

Sponsored by the University Student's Club the net proceeds will be donated to a central student fund at U.B.C. A committee of eight is now busy with the arrangements.

Further details will be released in the very near future. Watch these columns.

Military Training Discharge

U.B.C. Authorities Back Up Statement

By Peter Yamada

"I sincerely sympathize with your difficult position." So stated Dr. L. S. Klinck, president of the University of B. C., and Lt.-Col. G. M. Shrum, officer commanding the U.B.C. corps, when interviewed individually last Thursday by Hajime Kagetsu, president of the Japanese Students' Club, and Peter Yamada.

The press report that the military discharge of all trainees of Japanese ancestry was put into effect "for their own protection as well as the university's," was substantiated and amplified by the two officials.

University Responsible

They said that despite vigorous opposition of military authorities, the University Senate's Committee on Military Education instituted the compulsory military training of six hours per week for every able-bodied male student, regardless of racial differences.

With the outbreak of war in the Pacific, however, it was felt that there might be untoward incidents in which Nisei students in uniform would be involved. If any harm should come to them, the University authorities who originally put them in uniform, would be directly responsible. To avert any such eventuality, therefore, those in question were discharged.

Decision To Stand

Both Dr. Klinck and Lt.-Col. Shrum declared that the Committee's minute regarding the discharge would stand indefinitely, and that it could not be revoked.

The severity of The New Canadian editorial dealing with the issue was frankly deplored by both. They claimed that "due consideration was given the matter and under the circumstances there was no alternative."

Rumors that outside and inside pressure had been brought to bear on the University committee to make the decision, were flatly denied by the president and the commanding officer.

The interviewers were kindly invited to confer with them at any time should there arise any problem relative to Nisei students.

Life Oddities

While we make no bones about our fondness for black, brown and white horses, dogs, cats, or birds, we do wrap up in the same kind of differences in pigmentation among humans all kinds of strange beliefs and fantasies.

THE MUSIC BOX

Ahem! . . . Your columnist beams with pride as he presents — who he hopes to be the first of many for 1942 — a guest writer.

Spouting about things and stuff . . . Even though the thought of "Chattanooga Choo-Choo" cradles me now — its been played on the air much too much for its own good — yet that intro still thrills me . . . I guess that's how good that Glen Miller arrangement is.

Here are some recent discs that have appealed to yours truly . . . Harry James' "You Made Me Love You" . . . I can't stand James as a rule, but his version of this pop tune is a honey . . . Glen Miller's "Dear Arabella." . . . Some more of Tex Beneke's vocalizing that distinguished "Chattanooga," aided and abetted by Marion Hutton (hurrah!) and those super Modernaires.

. . . Tommy Dorsey's "Pale Moon." This tune with an exotic flavour that is done up brown by Frank Sinatra, both Metronome's and Down Beat's choice as the best male vocalist in 1941. Remember the super-job he did on "This Love of Mine," which incidentally was written by him? . . . Duke Ellington's "Take the A Train" . . . which is not exactly the latest thing but is one of the solidest of hot platters cut recently.

Just as a change of tempo this writer sticks out his stubby neck right out and makes the following forecasts for "Your Hit Parade." That song about the girl who's your fifa-ga-doosha-smina-ma-roosha-baldi-ralda-boom-to-de-ay, that is that sweet Irish colleen, "Rose O'Day," who was introduced on her program last November by Kate Smith will zoom up to the ceiling on the Parade as will the ditty, "How About You?" from the forthcoming Rooney-Garland pic, "Babes on Broadway." . . . That super ballad, "White Cliffs of Dover," will hang steady for a long while in big time.

THE WEEK'S LEADERS

1. White Cliffs of Dover.
2. Elmer's Tune.
3. Chattanooga Choo-Choo.
4. Shepherd's Serenade.
5. Tonight We Love.
6. Madelaine.
7. This Love of Mine.
8. How About You?
9. Everything I Love.
10. Bells of San Raquel.

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That's Left . . . . By J. M.

Organization of a Trade Union

Our last column started on the methods of collective bargaining and stated that the first requirement was an organization of the men. The forming of a strong organization of the workers is the primary and most important phase of the practice of collective bargaining, for it is in the strength of the workers' organization that following gains or losses depend. Gains will result if workers are aware of their own strength when united to advance some definite program, and when this program is actively pursued by the men themselves through their trade union.

Doing much of this very important work are executive members of the various locals and branches, but also playing a more important part in organizational work are the full-time organizers and secretaries. These men help workers to get organized and whenever difficulties arise in internal matters of the local or in relations with management they are available for assistance.

Organizers are generally men who have given their unions valuable service while working in the industry and as a result are familiar with the problems of the men and their work. They are chosen by the members of union at their conventions, and to these conventions they give their reports. While working in the industry they usually have been members of the executive of the local and consequently they have gained considerable experience in handling grievances and in negotiation.

Steps in Organization

When men in a camp or factory have shown some desire to join a trade union, contact is made with the office of the union for that industry which will send up a competent organizer. He will address a meeting of the men or if this is not possible, he will contact the men individually giving whatever information needed. The address may be of a general nature called a "propaganda meeting", to get the men further interested in organizing or it may deal with the role of workers in politics. Or if the thoughts of the men have advanced farther, the actual forms of organization may be discussed. The history of the industry and of the trade union may be given. The setup of other locals of the union may be outlined and a report of their work given.

The men may decide to form a local or branch of the trade union in the camp. The form of organization to be adopted will be discussed along with the number of men to have on the executive and the committees to have and who to elect to these executive positions. In all this discussion the suggestions of the organizers are invaluable. With their assistance some uniformity and consistency is gained throughout the trade union. The constitution of the trade union may be discussed and any difficult points explained by the organizer. The by-laws to be adopted by the local may also be discussed. The meeting may decide to refer the matter of by-laws, which become the constitution of the local, to a committee for study and report.

Trade Union Charter

One of the most important possessions of any trade union is its charter. When the men decide to organize, and have one formed, application is made to the head office of that union for a charter, to recognize them as the local of that trade union in that area. The head office, upon careful study to see that no other charters have been granted to cause a possible conflict of jurisdictions at a later date, and upon receipt of the usual fee will issue a charter to the local formed. This charter is held by the local while it abides by the constitution of the trade union. But upon irregularities detrimental to the union committed by the local, the charter may be revoked and the local no longer recognized by the head office.

Internal Organization

The internal organization of trade unions, and their locals and branches differ in each trade union and these are thoroughly explained by the organizers at the time of organization. The obligations and duties, as well as the privileges of union membership, vary between unions and these are made known to all members. Initiation fees and monthly dues differ in various unions and the proportion of amounts collected to be sent to headquarters and amounts to be retained by the local are decided by the conventions in accordance with the needs of the union. All these matters can be explained by the organizers and secretaries of the union.

Some of the points of organization are technical and have to conform to certain laws. To avoid difficulties at a later date each step must be taken with care, and actions taken must be specific and definite. Furthermore the members must understand the setup, responsibilities and practices of the trade union. This is a requirement of unity and strength.

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BULL SESSION

By E. N. M.

The other drippy chilly day Arabella and I went skating, that is, Arabella did the skating while I wallowed all over the Lagoon. (I gave up trying to skate after the third time I came in rapid and unexpected contact with the ice and lay there admiring her skating . . . something like a junior Sonja Henie only better looking.)

On the way home via the B.C.E. Transportation System a hefty middle-aged hag sitting in the pew in front of us started telling the world in general she wasn't going to stay in a street car while some g-d-m Japs (meaning us) were on it.

I didn't know what the dickens to do; this female wasn't drunk or anything, . . . she was dead serious and nothing I would have said would have made any difference . . . so there we were feeling mad and swearing under our breaths (at least I was. I don't know about Arabella) when a shabby but pleasant looking guy stands up and tells the battle-axe in front of us she doesn't know what she is talking about and the way some people act was an insult to the democracy that is Canada . . . with the result that she shut up quick and got off the street car at the next stop.

* * * * *

After we got home we sat on the chesterfield in front of the fireplace and thawed our toes out . . . I was thinking about the incident on the street car and I said:

"You know, I've always thought and said that Canada was the swellest country in the world and that it's great to live here . . . everybody feels that way about his own country I suppose . . . but since the war started I think I'm feeling it more sweet . . ." to which Arabella just smiled and I could see she understood what I was getting at.

"You feel it's worth taking insults and glares and vitriolic letters in the press when you meet someone like that guy in the street car who really understands the meaning of democracy . . . after all it's only a moronic minority who do all the name-calling and anonymous letter-writing . . . the only thing is that they make all the noise so you notice them all the more . . ."

Arabella slowly nodded her head in agreement . . .

"After all that is what we're fighting the Axis about, isn't it? Racial tolerance, equality among men, that's part of the democracy we're fighting for . . . the only thing is that because of some slow-minded prejudiced imbeciles they don't let us fight for our own native land . . . they say if they were born in Japan and educated there they still wouldn't become Japanese and fight for Japan . . . which shows you we're better men than they are . . . after all they can stop us from fighting for the country and withhold a lot of privileges from us but that can't stop us from being Canadians inside . . . we've learned about democracy and liberty and government of, for and by the people and we haven't forgotten it or will we ever forget it . . . we think Canada's a great country and a wonderful country and we belong to her and no small group of amateur Fascists can make us forget that . . ."

To which Arabella snuggled up close and whispered "I think Canada's wonderful, too" . . . you see now why I like the girl?

Sports Spotlite

A blue and excruciating Monday . . . Every bone in this writer's body creaks and each motion brings a sharp pain. Yes, 'twas a cruel Sunday when some of my over-zealous friends shanghaied me in the grey dawn to accompany them up the stiff incline of Grouse Mountain for pleasure, they claimed and nothing else.

Well, it's all over now except for the after effects and with my head feeling as if I had knocked it into million pieces slipping and sliding down the home trail, the grey matter doesn't function too brightly.

Seems to me there's more work and energy used in skiing than in any other sport known. It would be an ideal recreation if you want to keep that waist line down to minimum the chart way.

First of all it's the early morning start, and that's plenty tough after a late night-before. Next comes the gradual climb to Mosquito Creek which is a hike in itself. And then the real climb. Puffing and huffing, expecting your chest to burst any moment, you keep up a steady climb for about an hour. Ah, what a relief to see the first welcome sign of the ski village. But you break down too soon, for the Fuji Ski Club is situated on the highest section of the village and that 10 minute trek through the deep snow requires every ounce of a person's reserve energy.

At last the cabin, a great big sigh of relief as you take off the heavy pack and relax. A moment never to be forgotten.

Amazingly one's pep returns after a big meal and again you're raring to go and tackle the skis. A fifteen minute hike in the snow carries you to the top where it's just cluttered with people, a regular playground high in the sky.

Yes, it was lots of fun. The grind was tough and my condition today is far from normal but I'll say "no regret". I'm even anxious to try it again soon as I get about a month of rest.

What I noticed most was the vast improvement shown by the vets in the two years I had been away. Sam Hagino and Bob Yasui have turned into stylists par excellence. Bus Ohori, Otto Matsui, Jeep Inamoto, Frank Hatanaka and others are on par with topnotch skiers on the hill and that's not exaggerating one bit. Ski conditions, however, were none too good last Sunday and Fuji dare-devils were disappointed in the slow snow. "Jeep" Inamoto threatened to quit skiing if it did not get better soon. Tom Hatanaka practicing in front of the cabin took a bad spill and sprained his ankle. Two more energetic skiers Kaichi Nagata and Bill Yasui trekked to Dam Mountain in quest of better snow, but conditions on Dam were worse than on Grouse.

Shuttle

Japanese Badminton League continues to-night as Y.P.S. meets Strathcona and G.Y.K. versus Maple Ridge.

Last Monday's unfinished game between Strathcona's Luke Tanabe-D. Fujimagari and G.Y.K.'s Kiyoshi Suga-Rinzo Amemori resulted in the Stratheonians winning 21-17 which gave Strathcona their fifth win to tie the match.

The School League which was supposed to have begun last week backfired when some of the members objected to playing at Strathcona Gym.

Soccer

The poor condition of Powell Street Ground yesterday cancelled the first game of the finals between the Cambie Tigers and the Ex-Nippons. No word has been received yet, but in all probability the finals will start next Sunday.

Comets Trim Haney—Nomads Stop 'Canes

In an exhibition tilt last Saturday night the smooth-passing Comets whitewashed the Haney boys 50-24. Kaoru Natsuhara took the scoring honors of the night, swishing in 18 points just in the second half. Kiyoshi Maikawa was another big Comet shiper with 13 digits.

In the junior pre-lim Hurricanes were outclassed by the Nomads and took a 31-26 loss. Nomads took an early lead and kept at a safe pace ahead despite the efforts of the Hayashi brothers and Fujibayashi, Hurricane sparkplugs.

The Acme-Marpole tilt was cancelled and, according to Mi Akiyama, Acme may drop out of the junior circuit.

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Smooth Out the War Nerves

TO the Japanese community here on the *Pacific* Coast the war-beclouded future is still a huge question-mark. No one can be sure of what changes, whether for good or evil, may come about. And the result seems to be that the community as a whole is suffering from an acute case of "war nerves". We are going about talking war, war, war! We are thinking only of what we read in the headlines! We are worrying and worrying about how we're going to get used to the cold prairie weather!

Now "war nerves" can be a serious condition, but only if we go so far off the track that we let it get out of bounds. Like most mental diseases, we can keep it under proper control, if we summon up our good, common sense, if we pay less attention to exaggerated rumour and a sensationally-prattling press, and more regard to the immediate problems and pleasures of living.

Total war, no matter how blighting, how devastating, is basically a disease that will pass away. And though it is a tragic disease, yet for those who escape its full force, the processes of life and nature must go on. There must be work and there must be rest. There must be strain and there must be comfort. There must be sorrow, but there must also be joy. There will be death, and there will be birth.

If we deny all these things, if we insist upon moving about like automatons (defined as *a living being whose actions are* involuntary or without active intelligence), if we can't smile now, when the going isn't half-bad, how do we expect to take tougher things if they come?

For better or for worse we're here in Canada, and we are going to confound the devil himself by proving that we can be Canadians. But we shall not prove it, if we let ourselves be frightened away by our own shadows. If we stay here, or if we go east, we're going to prove to ourselves and to everyone else, that we can take tough breaks on the chin and come up fighting again. That's the tradition of a man no matter what his race.

Precautions, Not Persecution

(Nellie McClung in the Victoria Times)

We have in this province of British Columbia 23,000 Japanese people, many of them natives of Canada and some of the second (sic) generation. We have an opportunity now of showing them that we do *respect human rights* and that democracy has a wide enough framework to give peace and security to all people of good will irrespective of race or color. I believe that all precautions must be taken at this time, but we must not sink into Hitler's ways of punishing innocent people, just because we do not like their country. The Canadian Japanese are *not to blame for the treacherous* attack on Pearl Harbor, or the other misdeeds of their countrymen.

One over-zealous resident of Vancouver was outraged to see a policeman convoying Japanese children across a crowded street, when "there are street corners where no policeman is in attendance." Another one of the same mentality stamped off a street car because Japanese passengers were on it. Two 12-year-old boys set fire to a Japanese home in Seattle, endangering the lives of five American-born children, and the report said "the boys were no doubt actuated by patriotism." Now these things do not belong to our way of life. There is a touch of the Nazi in them which we cannot tolerate.

Here is a brighter item of news which fits into our framework:

"Under the Red Cross there was sent out from the Pacific Coast recently 5,680 cans of salmon caught by Japanese fishermen and canned by the Chinese, for shipment to bombed Britain."

A great opportunity is ours today to show a kindly spirit of watchful tolerance.

Let us guard well, not only our bridges and our plants, but our good name for fair dealing. We must have precautions, but not persecutions.

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The Week's Reading

CAMP ROBERTS. Sticking close to camp are the hundreds of Japanese-American soldiers, who, even though they could not leave to visit their homes, might be mistaken for parachutists by hair-trigger natives. Relatives can't visit them because all means of transportation save by private car are closed to Japanese, and few of those drive along highways near military property these days. In camp there's safety but occasional *embarrassment*, both for the Japanese and their buddies. During a barrack room bull session somebody is sure to refer to "those dirty little Japs" and there's little that can be said after that, for a minute anyway.

The first few days after Hawaii were the worst, but things got a little better when the first casualty lists contained the names of Japanese-American soldiers killed while fighting for the U.S. somewhere in the Pacific.

—*Collier's Magazine.*

• • •

There is a big howl being made in this vicinity about possible fifth columnists. Alderman Wilson is taking the lead in this crusade against local Japanese, this having been his favorite theme song for years. He now has envisioned the bright idea of moving all the male population belonging to the twenty-three thousand Japs of this province to the Interior, or the prairies, with vague ideas as to what he will do with them when he gets them there.

Quite possible there are some, even many, among the B. C. Japanese population who would lend aid to their countrymen if they should approach these shores . . .

But the matter which arouses our irony is the utter hypocrisy of this stand by Alderman Wilson and his ilk.

—*Marpole-Richmond Review,*
Eburne, B. C.

• • •

The "New Canadian," a second generation Japanese publication, has expressed alarm and disgust of Japanese fishermen at the treatment that some of their property has received in the process of being interned, and very rightly so.

There is nothing that the average fisherman takes more pride in and care of than the equipment by which he must make his living, and it must be admitted that the Japanese have always set an example in boat upkeep and care.

A number of white fishermen now in the Fishermen Naval Reserve have had a large part in the rounding-up of Japanese fishing boats, and we hardly feel that they would be party to careless handling of other people's property. We appeal to all our fishermen in the Reserve to use the utmost care in the handling of these Japanese boats and treat this property as they would have others treat their own. There have been rumours prevalent of outright stealing from interned boats. This should be stopped at all cost and culprits severely dealt with.

We have all condemned the Nazi practice of attacking racial minorities and the destruction of their possessions. This is a war to defeat such practice and not to emulate them.

—*The Fisherman, Vancouver.*

• • •

General Sir Henry Pownal (trustee of Singapore) . . . knows something about the Japanese because he spent his childhood in Japan; where his father built many miles of railway and where Henry learned to speak, read and write Japanese.

—*Time Magazine.*

in the new canadian mail

Thanks for Your Good Wishes.

Officers Mess, RCAF,
Patricia Bay, B.

The New Canadian.
Gentlemen (and ladies too, if any):

Please send me two dollars' worth of your brave li[ttle] paper—I like its spirit. Have you, by chance, a couple extra copies of January 5 issue? I'd like to send them some of my friends, east of the Rockies.

Do you have room for an occasional bit of quota[ble] poetry? Here's one I like:

THAT LESSER SIDE

When someone shows his lesser side,
I pray you, turn away
And guard most carefully the fact
You saw his feet were clay.
Control your startled voice, assume
A deep unconscious tone;
And tread so you will not display
Those clay feet of your own.

— Helen Howland Prommel

All good wishes to your enterprise, and your Canadi[an] people.

E. D. M. WILLIAMS.

• • • •

Liked the Poem on Boats.

Editor, The New Canadian—Dear Sir: I happened to s[ee] a copy of your newspaper of January 7th, and was tremen[d]ously impressed with the poem on page 2 about boats.

Would you please be kind enough to express to th[e] author (*whose name* I would like to know) how very fi[ne] I think this work is. It is, indeed, a poem of great feeli[ng] and beauty. I would like very much to send copies of it [to] others whom I know would appreciate it as much as I [do] *and I would* be glad *if you* could send me about a hal[f] *dozen copies of the issue of your paper containing it.*

ETHEL W. CLARKSON.

Woodfibre, B. C.

• • • •

A Voice from Edmonton.

Editor, The New Canadian. —Dear Sir: I have been a silent subscriber of "The New Canadian" since its inception. I shall now attempt a few words from this far frozen land around Edmonton.

Yes, Edmonton is a very nice place. In spite of the 30-below we often get, it is still a nice place. The scenery is beautiful, just forests of beautiful white flowers, the workings of Jack Frost no doubt! The people living in this snow-bound city are very friendly and broad-minded.

We, the *Nisei* here, have many friends scattered throughout the city, and we often drop in for a chat and to have tea together. Our topics of conversation may pass from the usual gossip to farming; from secrets to arguments, but no matter where we finish, our thoughts are still united as Canadians.

There are a few narrow-minded people in Edmonton, I believe. I have heard one or two who seemed bitter towards me because of conditions in the Far East. I live in Canada, the land my grandfater and father adopted at the turn of the century, and it is my country too. These narrow-mi[nd]ed people are soon forgo[tten] for if they would only thi[nk] twice, I'm in the same predi[ca]*ment as they are.*

Fortunately for myself [I] have never known the hards[hip] you folks at the co[ast] have to encounter. Your b[at]tle is my battle. No matt[er] what is said or done, ke[ep] your chins up! No person [is] worthwhile in this world w[ho] tries to destroy the coura[ge] and faith we all are striving [to] maintain; Canada is our lan[d,] *the land we love.* Who a[re] they that strive to seek [the] weaknesses and spread bitte[r]ness amongst the people [of] Canada? Rather through fa[ith] and courage they should f[ind] strength and not weakness a[nd] thus unity; for unity is [the] backbone of any country.

SUMIKO UYEHARA

EDMONTON, Alta.

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